

REMARKS

Claims 2-12 are pending in the present application after cancellation of claim

1. Claims 2 and 4 have been amended.

Applicants note with appreciation the acknowledgment of the claim for foreign priority and the acknowledgment that all certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

Objection to Claim 4

Claim 4 has been amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions, thereby rendering moot the objection to claim 4.

Allowable Claims 4-12

The Examiner indicated that claims 4-12 would be allowable if claim 4 is amended to overcome the formal objection to claim 4, as well as having claims 4-12 rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In response, claim 4 has been amended to be in independent form and include the limitations of parent claim 1, as well as having been amended to overcome the formal objection. Remaining claims 2-3 and 5-12 depend from claim 1.

Conclusion

In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all of the presently pending claims 2-12 are in condition for allowance. Prompt reconsideration and allowance of the present application are therefore earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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